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DD/S 71-4203

MEMORANDUM FOR: Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT : Air America Helicopter Story in 3 November 1971
WASHINGTON POST

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1. After your call, I talked briefly with [REDACTED]
He recalled this incident as occurring in the spring of 1971. An Air America helicopter on an AID mission was flying a load of canned meat to northwest Laos. There was a U.S. pilot from Air America and a Thai kicker aboard. The plane became weathered in and landed at a small field that they believed to be in Laos. Instead it turned out to be just over the border in Burma.

2. The aircraft was detained for about one week and both pilot and kicker were well treated. There was a survival weapon aboard which was released with the aircraft. There was an announcement to this effect in the Burmese papers. According to [REDACTED] the allegation by the reporter is totally false. He will pull together the detailed facts on this case and make it available to me. I will furnish you a copy of this information.

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[REDACTED]

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Special Assistant to the
Deputy Director for Support

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